

**Minutes of the Carnoustie Golf Links Greens Sub-Committee Meeting  
held in the CGLMC Ltd Office on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2012**

Present: J Gilbert (Greens Convenor), G Wilson, A McCartney, S Brown, P Sawers.

In Attendance: G Duncan (General Manager), J Philp (Links Superintendent),  
S Mitchell (Buddon Links Head Greenkeeper).

Meeting began 1900 hours.

**Apologies**

L Gordon, C Yule.

**2. Links Superintendents Report**

G Wilson enquired to why the divots were not growing in. J Philp advised that the weather has not been suitable for any seed germination, and therefore there has been no growth to repair the divots.

J Gilbert enquired to whether there was still Crested Dogstail on the course. J Philp advised that there are still patches of the plant, but they no longer form lines and are not really causing a problem.

G Wilson enquired to what action would be taken if the rough grows much more. J Philp advised that it is being monitored and some rough on the Burnside and Championship courses have already been trimmed. He also advised that generally we come to a dry spell at this time of the year where the grass growth tends to slow, and while this may well not happen, it would be useful if it did. The head greenkeepers will review periodically over the coming weeks / months.

**3. Monthly Maintenance Forecasts**

**Championship Course**

J Philp advised that the area at the left of the 4<sup>th</sup> hole will be stripped back completely and re-sewn with a mix of wild flowers, and there will also be some grasses in the mix to make the site look natural. The ground will be made GUR.

**Burnside Course**

J Gilbert enquired to whether the solid tining planned would cause disruption to play. J Philp advised that it would cause no disruption as the holes are very thin and the areas will be top-dressed.

J Gilbert asked whether C Law planned on doing any overseeding, as it was not in his report. J Philp advised that he thought C Law would like to carry out overseeding, and it has been omitted from the report accidentally. It will not cause any disruption to play.

J Gilbert asked whether the seed mix for the plants at the triangle area will be different to the mix used on the 4<sup>th</sup> hole. J Philp that this is a different mix which will contain plants more suited to a shaded area.

## Buddon Course

### Update on 2 New Holes

A large amount has been done in a short space of time. S Mitchell advised that this is only the stripping out stage. Mike Smith is to arrive this week to start on the main work. The work is running on time and the progress is good.

There is a small issue with the 12<sup>th</sup> and new 10<sup>th</sup> greens in that they are backing onto the trees behind them, giving little leeway at the back of the green. S Mitchell suggested that the whole green be moved forward around 10m to give a little more space around the greens. The committee agreed to allow the green to be moved forward by around 10 m and that in future, minor changes like this can be made by the team working on the project.

### Spoil Heap Area

J Philp advised the committee that when the Contractor started to move the spoil heap on the Buddon course, it was found to be very good quality material. J Philp suggested that it would not be efficient to remove all of this material from the course and instead, it should be kept and either screened off or made into a level platform that can be used as a tee. J Gilbert suggested that it be moved to the spoil heap area next to the railway. J Philp advised that this is where he would like the excavated sand to be stored. After discussions, the committee agreed to keep the material (around 500 tonnes) and screen it off. It can be moved in the future if necessary.

## **4. 3<sup>rd</sup> Hole Burnside**

The committee had planned on visiting the site but agreed it was not necessary. It was advised that moving the tee forward would put more houses in a danger zone. The committee agreed that they have done as much as possible to investigate making the tee safer and have come to the conclusion that the signage erected is the most appropriate way of dealing with it. G Duncan will write to Angus Council by the end of June advising of the steps taken by CGLMC Ltd.

## **5. Tee Head Furniture**

J Gilbert advised the committee that it seems to be the general view of the committee and players that the tee heads have far too much furniture on them. The committee discussed what was needed on the tee and came to the agreement that the 11<sup>th</sup> hole Championship should be used as a trial. The committee agreed to remove the marble plaques, but the 2 stones will remain and discs similar to the Buddon Links and Burnside will be put out with a yellow, green and red marker. P Sawers enquired to whether a cup to discard broken tees should be provided. She was advised that there are bins in the ball washers and special cups don't tend to get used.

On this matter, J Philp advised the committee that many more people are using the green tee than before and this is causing extensive wear on the green tee. He advised that A Reid has suggested that the yellow and the green tees be combined to spread the amount of wear. The committee agreed that this could be considered if A Reid provides a detailed proposal to the directors.

(M Ebert joined the meeting, 1945 hours).

### Warm Up Area

J Gilbert advised the committee that after the last full meeting, a meeting was held with M Ebert to discuss the proposed warm up facility. M Ebert presented 2 options to the committee. It was suggested that it may be better not to have a green but simply to put out flags as distance markers. M Ebert agreed that this was possible, he had only put a green in to make it as realistic as possible. Discussions were held regarding the chipping area and whether there would be problems with the R&A if the Open was to return. J Philp advised that this area could be turfed over for a tournament such as this, it would only happen every 10 years or so. It was agreed that the committee would like to keep the chipping area and have the flags instead of a green at the driving area. M Ebert is to move the project forward and find out whether Planning Permission is needed.

M Ebert advised that a meeting will be held this week to discuss the progress of the new fairways on the Buddon Links course, and all committee members are welcome.

(M Ebert left the meeting 2000 hours)

### **6. Rakes on Championship Course**

J Gilbert suggested that the rakes with the wooden handles, as used on the Buddon Links course, should be used on the Championship course as they are longer and look better. J Philp advised that the rake heads on the Championship course are far better. It was then agreed that the rake handles be replaced by the long wooden handles and the rake heads remain.

### **7. Rubbish Bins**

J Gilbert advised that there have been a few occasions when he had found the bins on the course to be full and overflowing. J Philp advised that the system works, but the person employed to empty the bins has been unreliable. J Philp will deal with this issue.

### **8. Spoil Heap**

J Philp advised that some of the rubble will be removed from this site and taken to Costside quarry. It is hoped that this site can be used to store the excavated sand in the future. It has been tidied up. J Gilbert is to visit the site with J Philp and S Mitchell to discuss.

### **9. Woodland Trust – Beating Up**

J Philp advised the committee that the representative from the Woodland Trust visited the course last Wednesday to assess the plants. He found there to be around 75 plants that need replaced, and these will be replaced this month. He will also be asked whether the trees at the practice ground need thinned out.

### **10. Huxley Housing**

J Philp advised that Huxley have now found a reliable manufacturer for the housing of the temporary platform tees. J Philp enquired to whether all of the wooden boxes will have to be discarded now, he was advised that they most likely will.

**11. Winter Works**

J Gilbert suggested that the Greenkeepers get their proposals for the winter works in to the committee by the August Greens meeting for discussions.

G Duncan is to check what holes were agreed upon to trial the natural bunkers. J Philp will be informed.

**12. Any Other Competent Business**

A McCartney enquired to whether the stakes on the left hand side of the 10<sup>th</sup> hole of the Championship course can be removed. He was advised that they will be removed if it is possible.

Thanks to J Philp

As this is J Philp's last meeting, J Gilbert took the opportunity to thank him for all of his hard work over many years.

J Philp in return thanked the committee and advised that it has always been a team effort. He has had lots of satisfaction from his job.

There being no other competent business, the meeting was then closed at 2015 hours.

KS